

# DISPOSITION OF REMAINS REPORT

U.S. Embassy Colombo, Sri Lanka

April 2020

CDC requirements for importing human remains depend upon if the body has been embalmed, cremated, or if the person died from a [quarantinable communicable disease](#).

At this time, COVID-19 is a quarantinable communicable disease in the United States and the remains must meet the standards for importation found in 42 Code of Federal Regulations Part 71.55 and may be cleared, released, and authorized for entry into the United States only under the following conditions:

- The remains are cremated; OR
- The remains are properly embalmed and placed in a hermetically sealed casket; OR
- The remains are accompanied by a permit issued by the CDC Director. The CDC permit (if applicable) must accompany the human remains at all times during shipment.
  - Permits for the importation of the remains of a person known or suspected to have died from a quarantinable communicable disease may be obtained through the CDC Division of Global Migration and Quarantine by calling the CDC Emergency Operations Center at 770-488-7100 or emailing [dgmqpolicyoffice@cdc.gov](mailto:dgmqpolicyoffice@cdc.gov).

Please see [CDC's guidance](#) for additional information.

## PART I. Name of Country

The Republic of Maldives

## PART II. U.S. Embassy Information

Embassy of the United States of America

#210, Galle Road,

Colombo – 3

Sri Lanka

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Fax : +94-11-243-7345

Emergency after-hours number: +94-77-725-6307, +94-11-249-8500

## PART III. Profile of Religions of the Host Country and Religious Services available to visitors

**Country Profile:** See "Background Note: Maldives"

**Host Country Religion:** Sunni Islam.

**Religious Activities for Visitors:** Public observance of any religion other than Islam is prohibited.

Religious gatherings such as Bible study groups are prohibited; however, a family unit may practice its religion, including Bible readings, within its residence. It is against the law to invite or encourage Maldivian citizens to attend these gatherings. Offenders may face jail sentences, expulsion, and/or fines.

Although Maldivian law prohibits importing “idols for religious worship,” tourists traveling to the resort islands are generally allowed to bring in items and texts used for personal religious observances. **DISCLAIMER: The U.S. Embassy Colombo, Sri Lanka assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability or reputation of, or the quality of services provided by, the following person(s) or firm(s). The order in which they appear has no significance. Professional credentials and areas of expertise are provided directly by the funeral directors, morticians and other service providers.**